

CLAIMS

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1. A method for enabling instruction of a computer to perform tasks, the method including the steps of:
- 5 providing a user with at least one form printable on a surface to provide one or more first viewable information zones relating to one or more available commands and one or more second viewable information zones relating to one or more objects;
- receiving, in a computer system, indicating data from a sensing device operated by the user regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the surface, said
- 10 movement including a stroke of part of the sensing device on or relative to said surface;
- determining, in the computer system and from the indicating data, if the stroke substantially links one or more of said first viewable information zones with one or more of said second viewable information zones, and thereby interpreting the stroke as designating (i) a respective one or more of said available commands and (ii) a respective
- 15 one or more of said objects; and
- applying in the computer system the designated one or more of said available commands to the designated one or more of said objects.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one form includes coded data
- 20 indicative of at least one reference point of the form, and said indicating data regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the surface is generated by way of the sensing by the sensing device of its movement relative to the surface using at least some of the coded data.
- 25 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said at least one form includes coded data indicative of an identity of the form, and said indicating data from the sensing device includes data regarding the identity of the form.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said indicating data is provided by way of the

sensing device generating data regarding its own movement relative to the surface.

5. The method of claim 1, including the step of identifying, in the computer system and from said indicating data, if the stroke has encircled one or more of said
5 second viewable zones relating to one or more objects, thereby designating said one or more objects.

6. The method of claim 1, including the step of identifying, in the computer system and from said indicating data, if the stroke has intersected one or more of said
10 second viewable zones relating to one or more objects, thereby designating said one or more objects.

7. The method of claim 6, at least one of said second viewable zones having a viewable boundary, and including the step of identifying, in the computer system and
15 from said indicating data, if the stroke has crossed said boundary more than once, and to apply a different one or more of said available commands if such an occurrence is identified.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said part of the sensing device includes a
20 marking nib and said stroke is able by way of said marking nib to provide a visible marking on said surface.

9. The method of claim 1, including the step of identifying, in the computer system and from the indicating data, if a user has effected the stroke to designate one or
25 more of said second viewable zones and extend to intersect with one or more of said first viewable zones.

10. The method of claim 1 for designation of a feature of said one or more objects such that said designated one or more of the available commands is carried out with

respect to that feature.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said designated feature is a color attribute of said designated one or more objects, and the method includes the step of setting the
5 value of said color attribute according to the designated one or more commands.

12. The method of claim 11, including the step of providing the user with a further form printable on a surface including one or more viewable information zones relating to said designated one or more of said objects, said one or more zones including
10 representations of the designated one or more objects rendered according to the value of the color attribute.

13. The method of claim 1, the surface being provided by a laminar substrate, the method including printing said at least one form on the substrate on demand.
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14. The method of claim 2, the surface being provided by a laminar substrate, the method including printing said at least one form on the substrate on demand, and, at the same time, printing the coded data on the substrate.

20 15. The method of claim 14, including printing the coded data to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

16. The method of claim 3 which includes retaining a retrievable record of each form generated, the form being retrievable using its identity as contained in its coded
25 data.

17. The method of claim 1, in which the sensing device contains an identification means which imparts a unique identity to the sensing device and identifies it as being

associated with a particular user and in which the method includes monitoring, in the computer system, said identity.

18. The method of claim 1, which includes providing all required information
5 relating to said one or more available commands on the at least one form, to eliminate the need for a separate display device.

19. The method of claim 13 or 14, the laminar substrate being providable as a paper
10 page, and in which the at least one form is printable on multiple pages and the method includes binding the pages

20. A system for enabling instruction of a computer to perform tasks, the system including:

at least one form printable on a surface to provide one or more first viewable
15 information zones relating to one or more available commands and one or more second viewable information zones relating to one or more objects;

a computer system for receiving indicating data from a sensing device operated by a user regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the surface, said movement including a stroke of part of the sensing device on or relative to said surface,
20 the computer system adapted to determine, from the indicating data received, if the sensing device stroke substantially links one or more of said first viewable information zones with one or more of said second viewable information zones and thereby designates (i) a respective one or more of said available commands and (ii) a respective one or more of said objects one or more of said available commands,

25 the computer system adapted to apply the designated one or more of said available commands to the designated one or more of said objects.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said at least one form includes coded data indicative of at least one reference point of the form, and said indicating data regarding

movement of the sensing device relative to the surface is generated by way of the sensing by the sensing device of its movement relative to the surface using at least some of the coded data.

5 22. The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one form includes coded data indicative of an identity of the form, and said indicating data from the sensing device includes data regarding the identity of the form.

10 23. The system of claim 20, wherein the sensing device is adapted to generate data regarding its own movement relative to the surface, in order to provide said indicating data.

15 24. The system of claim 19, the computer system adapted to identify from said indicating data if the stroke has encircled one or more of said second viewable zones relating to one or more objects, thereby designating said one or more objects.

20 25. The system of claim 20, the computer system adapted to identify from said indicating data if the stroke has intersected one or more of said second viewable zones relating to one or more objects, thereby designating said one or more objects.

26. The system of claim 25, at least one of said second viewable zones having a viewable boundary, the computer system adapted to identify from said indicating data if the stroke has crossed said boundary more than once, and to apply a different one or more of said available commands if such an occurrence is identified.

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27. The system of claim 20 including the sensing device.

28. The system of claim 20 in which said part of the sensing device includes a

marking nib.

29. The system of claim 20 in which the sensing device contains an identification means to impart a unique identity to the sensing device to identify it as belonging to a particular user.

30. The system of claim 20, the surface being provided by a laminar substrate, the system adapted to print said at least one form on the substrate on demand.

31. The system of claim 21, the surface being provided by a laminar substrate, the system adapted to print said at least one form on the substrate on demand and to print the coded data on the substrate at the same time.

32. The system of claim 31, the coded data printed to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

33. The system of claim 30 or 31, including a printer for printing on the laminar substrate.

34. The system of claim 30 or 31, including a binding means to bind multiple items of said laminar substrate, to cater for a form printed on multiple pages.